

By the President of the United States  
A proclamation  
~~To the People of the United States of America.~~

Whereas the laws of the United States, <sup>have been,</sup> for  
some time past, and <sup>and now</sup> ~~at the present,~~ are opposed,  
and the execution thereof obstructed, in the  
States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama,  
Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana; and Texas,  
by combinations too powerful to be suppressed  
by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings,  
or by the powers vested in the Marshals, by law,  
<sup>they have,</sup> Abraham Lincoln  
President of the United States, in virtue  
of the power so vested by the Constitution  
and <sup>the</sup> laws, have thought fit to call <sup>forth</sup> ~~out~~, and  
hereby do call ~~out~~ forth the militia of  
the several States of the Union, to the ag-  
gregate number of seventy-five thousand, in order  
to suppress said combinations, and to cause the  
laws to be duly executed. The details, for this  
object, will be <sup>immediately communicated</sup> ~~made known~~ to the State authori-  
ties, through the War Department.

I appeal to all loyal citizens to favor,  
facilitate, and aid this effort to maintain  
the honor, the integrity, and the existence of  
and the <sup>perpetuity of popular government;</sup>  
our National Union, and to redress ~~its~~ <sup>its</sup>  
press ~~its~~ <sup>its</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>ways</sup> ~~injuries~~, already too long  
endured.

I deem it proper to say, that the first  
service assigned to the forces hereby called forth  
will probably be to reform the forts, places  
and property, which have been seized from  
the <sup>Union;</sup> ~~government;~~ and, <sup>in</sup> every event, that it:

most care will be observed, consistly with the objects  
aforesaid, to avoid any devastation, any destruct-  
ion of, or interference with, property, or any disturb-  
ance of peaceful citizens, in any part of the  
Country.

And I hereby command the persons composing  
the combinations aforesaid to disperse, and retire  
peaceably to their respective abodes, within twenty  
days from this date.

Deeming that the present condition of  
public affairs presents an extraordinary occasion,  
<sup>I do hereby</sup> in virtue of the power in me vested by the Consti-  
tution, ~~I do hereby~~ convene both Houses of Congress,  
Senators and Representatives are therefore summoned  
to assemble at their respective Chambers, at  
12 o'clock, noon, on Thursday, the fourth day of  
July, ~~1861~~, <sup>next</sup>, then and there to consider,  
and determine, such measures as, in their  
wisdom, the public safety, and interest, may  
seem to demand.

By the President of the United States  
A Proclamation.

Whereas &c

In witness whereof, I have hereunto  
set my hand and caused the seal of  
the United States to be affixed. Done at  
the city of Washington, this 15<sup>th</sup> day  
of April in the year of our Lord  
and of the Independence of the United  
States the

By the President

Sec State.

Original draft of  
Proclamation  
by the President

Apr 15 1861

Executive Mansion

April 15, 1861

Lieut. Genese Scott:

My dear Sir:

Col. Peter G. Washington tells me it is my duty to call on officers to the command of the District of Columbia <sup>now in the U.S. service,</sup> Military, and that he, by rank in the District of Columbia, is entitled to the place.

Is it my duty to call, or designate, such officers? And if yes, is Col. Washington, by military law, <sup>usage,</sup> or courtesy, entitled to the place?

Please investigate & inform me

Yours Obedt. Servt.

A. Lincoln